



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 15, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank S. Bacio
Carl E. Moore

Excused Absence

Vito Cannella
John A. Hammargren

Others Present

Jim Corbett, Assistant Chief, Commission Services Division
Audra Galang, Commission Services Division
Elizabeth A. Howard, DCFS, Out of Home Care Management
Ronald Hudson, Probation Department, Central Placement
Theodora Parlanti, Commissioner of LAC Task Force on Nutrition
Candace Rhue, Auditor Controller
Detta Roberts, Commander, Sheriff's Department
Corina Torrero, Sheriff's Department, Correctional Services Division

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montano reported Commissioner Maxine Russell's resignation effective March 8, 2006. She requested staff to send a thank you letter and her nameplate to Ms. Russell. She passed around a book given by Ms. Russell to the Commission that identifies all psychotropic drugs.

Vice Chair Stathatos introduced her guest, Commissioner Theodora Parlanti of the Los Angeles County Task Force on Nutrition.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES ON FACILITY OPERATIONS

Sheriff's Department: Ms. Corina Torrero reported that she looked into the problem with the turn out gear at the East LA Station and it has been resolved. Commissioner Moore stated the turn out gear problem seems more widespread in the Court Services Division. Ms. Torrero also reported on the approval of raises for the jail personnel and that this has had a positive effect on morale. In about 10 days, female inmates will be transitioned from Twin Towers to the CRDF in Lynwood. She stated there is continuing discussion of proper housing for mentally ill inmates as well as those in programs and those who need close monitoring. There is a team currently discussing to rehabilitate the Sybil Brand Institute and, at present, implementation of a plan could begin in about five years. She also reported that construction has begun for the new Training Academy.

Probation Department: Mr. Ronald Hudson reported that Imperial Homes 1 and 2 are on a temporary "hold" status. Because of an incident where a driver left several children alone in Cerritos, it resulted in the stabbing of one of the children by gang members. All the children were pulled from that home. Vice Chair Stathatos reported on the positive attitude of Camp Holton's personnel and the children displayed good manners.

Commissioner Moore asked if Chief Deputy Snapp could come to a future meeting and discuss the results of an audit of the Department.

Auditor-Controller's Office: Chair Montano advised the commission that she had received a negative audit report on Westside Group Homes 1, 2, 3 and 4 and is behind in correcting several items included in the audit. Ms. Rhue reported the Cleo Group Home received a corrective action plan and the office is awaiting Mr. Davis' response, which is late. The fiscal audit is continuing.

Dept. of Children and Family Services: Ms. Liz Howard reported that Cleo's Home received a corrective action plan from their department and that they had met with Mr. Davis on February 22 to discuss the plan.

Dept. of Mental Health: No representative in attendance.

Chair Montano thanked the representatives from the Auditor-Controller, Children and Family Services Department, Sheriff's Department and Probation Department for their reports.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$887.00.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Jim Corbett, Assistant Chief of Commission Services, reported the following:

1. We are still working on your website. The website URL for the Sybil Brand Commission's forthcoming website is www.lacsbcc.org.
2. The latest 2006 Group Home Directory list was given to all Commissioners.
3. The letter of concern to Sheriff Leroy Baca on inadequate turn out gear was sent.
4. Lockers for the Commissioners were rekeyed and staff will assign numbers on each locker.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2006 MEETINGS

In the presence of a quorum, on motion of Commissioner Bacio, seconded by Commissioner Moore, and unanimously carried, the minutes of March 8, 2006 were approved with corrections as follows:

LAC/USC General Hospital Jail Ward

Commissioner Moore expressed concern that inmate patients were being assigned to an open ward outside the jailhouse **ward**

Jay Cee Dee Children's Home 52 #2

Ms. Mattie Drawn, owner, is ultimately responsible ~~and lives much nicer.~~

Florence Crittenton 43 #1

This was a nice transitional **maternity** home which was closed.....

CORRESPONDENCE

None

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

Manna Manor - 67 #2

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren visited this facility on March 13th, and found the following areas of concern: this facility is an RCL level 9 home but when some of the kids arrived, they appeared to be overmedicated. Everything else was excellent and updated. It has a new water heater that needs to be strapped.

Manna Manor Inc. – 66 #3

Chair Montano inspected this facility on March 14th, and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported. She noted the facility has everything in order. The staff is good in calming fearful kids.

Ettie Lee – 33 #2

Vice Chair Stathatos inspected this facility on March 14th, and found they were in the process of a yearly fumigation. Therefore, no inspection was done.

Ettie Lee – 34 #2

Vice Chair Stathatos inspected this facility on March 13th, and found no area of concern. The place is well kept. It has greatly improved over the years in terms of staff and physical plant.

Star View Group Home – 101 #2

Commissioners Moore and Bacio inspected this facility on March 9th, and found the capacity is 40 with a current population of 20 girls and 16 boys. It has 180 full-time staff. Commissioner Moore inquired about how long the clients may stay in the Puff Unit and couldn't get a direct answer. The capacity of this unit is 16 and had an occupancy of 10. One room was in a very filthy condition. He stated the unit appears more like a mental ward or jail unit.

Counseling and Research Lloyd Manor - 20 #3

Commissioners Moore and Bacio visited this facility on March 14th, and found it to be closed.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Montano assigned the inspection duties to Commissioners for the following week.

She announced there will be no meeting on March 22, 2006. Instead the Commissioners will tour CRDF, the new facility for women inmates in Lynwood.

Chair Montano shared a flyer, "Cancer Patients Fly Free", which describes a program where patients can travel free on corporate jets to get their specialized treatment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Corbett

Asst. Chief, Commission Services Division